

C O P Y

9

June 24, 1914.

My dear Dr. Thomas:-

I am this morning in receipt of your letter of the 19th inst. which has been forwarded to me at my country home, to which point I was removed a week ago today.

I thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy and know you will be pleased to learn that I have been convalescing rapidly. Fortunately I have not had the ravenous appetite which in most cases seems to be incidental to recovery from typhoid fever.

It has been a matter of sincere regret that I have been compelled to be absent from Middlebury at this particular commencement season. It would have been a great pleasure if I could have expressed personally to Gov. Mead my appreciation of his munificence in the gift which he has recently made to the college for a chapel. I have felt for years that the one building which the college most needed is that which Gov. Mead has undertaken to erect. I feel that it should be located on the most prominent site and that, architecturally, it should be the most attractive of all the buildings of the college.

I believe that Gov. Mead will fully accord with this idea as I know that he feels, as I am sure we all do, that it ought to be the most attractive memorial erected on the college campus.

Of one thing I am sure the Governor may rest assured, and that is the co-operation of all the trustees in his effort and desire to make this building in every respect such as he has outlined.

Will you please express to him my appreciation of what he has done and what he is doing for the college?

With best regards, I am

Most sincerely yours,

James M. Gifford